THE HINDU

15/10/1969

Congress Party Stronger After Bangalore Meet: P.M

BONN, Oct. 14.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, has said in an interview that since its Bangalore session, the ruling Congress Party had acquired greater public support and was strong enough to withstand internal dissension.

Mrs. Gandhi told the West German news magazine Der Spiegel that reforms, like the nationalisation of banks, had hitherto been delayed because of resistance inside the Congress Party.

"Everybody in the Government agreed in principle with the nationalisation of the banks, but action was not taken. In Bangalore, I was convinced that I had to act now, because otherwise the Congress Party would have finally fallen into the hands of a few people obsessed with power," Mrs. Gandhi said.

Asked whether in doing this she had risked her position as Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi said, 'certainly—not only that. I was given to understand: If you stick by us then we will keep you as Prime Minister, otherwise . . . .

"I answered that it was not important whether I remained Prime Minister or not," she added.

Questioned about the possibility of assassination, Mrs. Gandhi said, 'I do not know whether anybody is really after my life. Our security officials said they had information indicating this.

"I do not worry about this. For me the important thing is that the people know we are on their side, that the Congress Party is strengthened and remains democratic.

"The Party should be a bridge between the people and the Government."

Discussing the weakness of the Congress Party, Mrs. Gandhi said it did not encourage, new people and was prone to form cliques—what she called "bossism."

Asked whether the party would disintegrate, Mrs. Gandhi said, "before the discussions in Bangalore, this danger was very great. But now—even if there were still a split—the party as such would no longer be endangered."

DESAI CRITICISES MOVE AGAINST NIJALINGAPPA

Former Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, said in Ahmedabad to-day that there was no reason why the Congress President Mr. S. Nijalingappa should step down.

Speaking to newsmen at the Gujarat Vidyapeeth, Mr. Desai said there was no justification for the demand made by some people in the Congress that Mr. Nijalingappa should resign or be removed. He was competent and doing the job well, Mr. Desai added.

Referring to Mr. C. Subramaniam's membership of the Congress Working Committee, Mr. Desai said that Mr. Subramaniam had ceased to be a member of the AICC after he resigned from the Tamil Nad Congress Presidentship. His membership of the Working Committee was based on the Presidentship. However, this question would be discussed and settled by the Working Committee, Mr. Desai added.

Mr. Desai disagreed with the view that the Congress should be liquidated. He differed with Mahatma Gandhi on this issue, he said.

If the Congress organisation was dissolved, the country's future would be ruined, he said..

MISHRA ASSAILS P.M'S GROUP

The Congress Parliamentary Party Deputy Leader, Mr. S. N. Mishra said in New Delhi to-day that it was not the Congress President, but the Prime Minister and her supporters who were violating the Unity resolution of the Working Committee.

Mr. Mishra criticised Mrs. Indira Gandhi and other members of the Working Committee for accusing Mr. S. Nijalingappa of acting arbitrarily.

He said the organisational wing was only doing what was obligatory under the Party's constitution. It had not acted in a vindictive spirit.

He said that in terms of the Congress constitution, Mr. C. Subramaniam had ceased to be a member of the Working Committee after the lapse of his ex-officio membership of the AICC.

He voiced full support to Mr. Nijalingappa in regard to the Subramaniam issue and also his desire to maintain the principle of one-man-one office. He said if ministers were permitted to hold positions in the organisation, the latter would become a handmaid of the Government.

The Congress President, Mr. S. Nijalingappa said to-day that he would not object if Mr. Kamlapati Tripathi chose to continue as Uttar Pradesh P.C.C. chief by relinquishing the Deputy Chief Ministership of Uttar Pradesh.

Mr. Nijalingappa gave this assurance to-day to the General Secretary of the Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee. Mr. N. M. Bahuguna.

He told Mr Bahuguna that he had not declared the office of the UPCC Presidentship vacant.

Four leading Congressmen of West Bengal yesterday asked Mr. Nijalingappa "to retire leaving the Presidentship of the Congress to some other Congressman who will be better suited to adapt himself to dynamic measures for early implementation of democratic socialism in the country."

In a joint letter, released in Calcutta, they charged Mr. Nijalingappa with "abusing" the highest party office by "shielding guilty Congressmen" responsible for the repeated Congress debacles in West Bengal."

The signatories included Dr. Balai Chandra Pal and Mr. Mahendra Chowdhury, members of the Pradesh Congress Committee.

AICC MEMBER'S OFFER TO SUBRAMANIAM

Meanwhile, Mr. Satpal Mittal, M.L.C., and member of the All India Congress Committee, has offered his seat in the AICC to Mr. C. Subramaniam to facilitate his election to the Congress Working Committee.—PTI and UNI.

Mysore M.P. Wants Nijalingappa to Go

BANGALORE, Oct. 14.

Mr. M. V. Krishnappa, M.P. and a supporter of the Prime Minister, said here to-day that the stepping down of Mr. Nijalingappa would not only save the 'fair name' of Mysore but also give a free hand to the Prime Minister to pursue and implement the accepted policies and programmes of the Congress instead of keeping her busy with trifles.

In a statement, Mr. Krishnappa, said the handling of the Congress affairs by Mr. Nijalingappa as President had led to the creation of confusion and crisis both in the organisation and the country.

However, the P.C.C. President, Mr. K. Nagappa Alva, at a meeting of the executive, yesterday, severely criticised the action of the Prime Minister and her colleagues in writing a 'hasty' letter to the Congress President over the Subramaniam issue.—FOC.

THE HINDU

15/10/1969

Moral Uplift Movement: Kamaraj's Call

MADRAS, Oct. 14.

Mr. K. Kamaraj to-day expressed his anguish over the deterioration in the standards of behaviour of people and called for the launching of a moral uplift movement.

In an interview to Pressmen Mr. Kamaraj referred to the defections of party members under the pretext of personal convictions, lack of integrity and discipline, and resort to corrupt practices to achieve things, and said it looked as though morality was lacking at all levels in the public life. He had been addressing the people as well as the student community in the last few days in connection with Gandhi birth centenary, impressing upon them that the coming generation would be the losers if they regarded indiscipline and corrupt practices as normal things in life. The generation that was passing out felt that the present trends were leading the country to ruination, he said.

Mr. Kamaraj emphasised the need to inculcate in the minds of people a sense of belonging to India, and said it would be most appropriate that in this year of Gandhi birth centenary, the moral uplift movement he had in view was launched all over the country. Leaders, who were interested in guiding the country along the Gandhian path, should take the initiative in this connection.

INDIAN EXPRESS

15/10/1969

Election to Corporation: MPCC steps

By A Staff Reporter

BANGALORE, Oct. 14.

The Parliamentary Board of the Mysore Pradesh Congress Committee today set Nov. 10 as the last date for receiving applications from party candidates for the ensuing Corporation elections in Bangalore and asked the Bangalore City District Congress Committee (BCDCC) to invite applications immediately.

The BCDCC has been given time till Nov. 25 to finalise its recommendations. The board will then review the recommendations and finalise the list of party candidates by the end of December.

While no final date has yet been fixed for the Corporation elections, they are most likely to be held in the last week of February.

The Parliamentary Board also reviewed the working of the taluk development boards and expressed satisfaction that, generally, the work of the Congress members of these boards had been quite satisfactory.

The labour co-ordination committee of the MPCC met in the evening for over three hours and reviewed the working of the INTUC. It was felt that the committee and the INTUC should work as complementary bodies and that no two Congress members should sponsor rival trade unions in the same unit. In cases where such unions were started, they should either merge or one of the units should back out.

The committee also discussed the labour situation in the KGF where there have been some disturbances since this morning.

INDIAN EXPRESS

15/10/1969

SN need not quit: Morarji

AHMEDABAD, Oct 14 (UNI)
Former Deputy Prime Minister Morarji Desai said here today that there was no reason why Congress President S. Nijalingappa should step down.

Speaking to newsmen at Gujarat Vidyapeeth, Mr. Desai said there was no justification for the demand made by some people in the Congress that Mr. Nijalingappa should resign or be removed. He is competent and doing the job well, Mr. Desai added.

Referring to Mr. C. Subramaniam's membership of the Congress Working Committee, Mr Desai said Mr. Subramaniam had ceased to be a member of the AICC after he resigned from the Tamil Nadu Committee presidentship. His membership of the CWC was based on the presidentship. However, this question would be discussed and settled by the CWC, Mr. Desai added.

Mr. Desai disagreed with the view that the Congress should be liquidated. He differed with Mahatma Gandhi on this issue, he said.

INDIAN EXPRESS

15/10/1968

Party versus Govt.

By M. ANANTHASAYANAM AYYANGAR

AFTER the controversies over the presidential election have been set at rest by the resolutions of the Congress Working Committee, it is a pity that new controversies have arisen regarding the spheres of jurisdiction of the Congress President and the Prime Minister or the Chief Ministers of the States. It must be recognised that though the party sents its representatives to the Legislature, the party leader in the Legislature is elected by the party members without any interference or direction by the party outside or its leader there and the Legislature leader, if it is a majority party, becomes the Prime Minister or the Chief Minister as the case may be. The Legislature members of the party are, thereafter, under the general supervision of legislature party leader and control of the party with regard to the work in the legislature.

The Legislature party can take decision regarding matters that come up before the Legislature, issue whips and generally exercise control over its members. The outside party can only see that the party inside does not violate any of the pledges given by the party at the time of election, and so long as that is done, it has no right to interfere with the day-to-day working of the party inside or give directions to it as to how the election pledges have to be implemented. The Legislature Party is sufficiently competent to decide upon the details and to work out the party programme. It must be remembered that while, before the election, the legislators were merely party members and represented the party, after the election they represent their electorates equally with or even more than their parties. Therefore they are not merely agents of that party, though they are bound to carry out its pledges, but are more the agents of their respective constituencies. This is forgotten when the party decides to interefere in the day-to-day working of the Legislature party or give directions to them.

In England, the Conservative Party has avoided this conflict by having the same leader both inside Parliament and outside it. When a controversy arose in the Labour Party, it was decided that the leader of the party outside Parliament should confine himself to the organisational matters, leaving it to the leader of the party inside Parliament, who may be a Prime Minister to look after the affairs of the Government or Parliament and control the members.

Pledges

The choice of the leader of the party is in the hands of the legislators. Likewise, the removal of the leader also is in their hands. So long as the leader commands the confidence of a majority of the members of his party, he can continue to be in office, and neither the party outside nor its president can give directions to the party members to throw out their leader. This will be unconstitutional. Of course the main party's supervision over the Legislature party extends to the extent of seeing that neither the leader nor the party members violate glaringly the pledges given by the party at the time of election in the election. manifesto. Beyond that, that party cannot exercise any further control. It is a matter of great doubt if, in the yearly conference where changes in programmes can be effected by the party outside, the party inside can be called upon to implement a change from the policies set out in the manifesto however well - intentioned that change might be. The legislators will be then asked to do something different from and sometimes contrary to the pledges they had given to the electorate. A suggestion for implementation may, no doubt, be given at the conferences, but they ought not to become directions to be followed. To appreciate the restricted extent of the power of the party outside after the election, one has to note that the party cannot give directions to the members even in regard to the election of a leader and much less has it a right to give directions to the members regarding the election of a Speaker or the President who are above parties.

While the party outside seems to claim an excessive right over the Legislature Party, it is equally strange that the leader of the party inside the Legislature should try to throw the party overboard altogether in her claim based on some supposed advice, that if she commands a majority in the Legislature, she can continue to be the Prime Minister, notwithstanding her loss of confidence among the members of her own party. With all respect I submit that this view is wrong. The moment the leader loses the confidence of the members of her own party, she goes out of office and the party can elect another leader who will be certainly called upon by the Head of the State to form Government.

Initial stages

If that leader wants, she can resign the party membership and organise another party with the help of the Opposition in the Legislature and claims to be the leader of a bigger party, throw out the leader of her original party by a vote of no-confidence and get in. Even such a step is, with all respect, neither legitimate nor proper. When once a member is elected on a party ticket, his joining the Opposition on the floor of the House and foming a new party is opposed to all correct principles of constitutional practice. That person who no longer commands the confidence of his own party should resign and seek re-election on behalf of any other party of his choice and then try to contest the leadership inside the Legislature.

We are still in the initial stages of building up of proper constitutional practice and procedures. We should, therefore, be careful and take steps which are in the right direction and are constitutional and sound irrespective of the personal or party interests involved therein.

INDIAN EXPRESS

15/10/1969

Split poses no danger to party: Indira

BONN, Oct. 14

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi feels the Congress Party would not be endangered even if there were a split.

But she has admitted that such a danger was there before the Bangalore session of the party.

Mrs. Gandhi who made these observation in an interview to the news magazine, Der Spiegel, pointed out that the weakness of the party could be traced to its indifference towards youth and new people and "bossism".

She said reforms, like the nationalisation of banks, had hitherto been delayed because of resistance inside the Party.

"Everybody in the Government agreed in principle with the nationalisation of the banks, but action was not taken. In Bangalore, I was convinced that I had to act now, because otherwise the Congress Party would have finally fallen into the hands of a few people obsessed with power" Mrs. Gandhi said.

Asked whether in doing this she had risked her position as Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi said "certainly — not only that. I was given to understand: If you stick by us then we will keep you as Prime Minister, otherwise....

"I answered that it was not important whether I remained Prime Minister or not," she added.

Questioned about the possibility of assassination, Mrs. Gandhi said "I do not know whether anybody is really after my life. Our security officials said they had information indicating this.

"I do not worry about this. For me the important thing is that the people know we are on their side, that the Congress Party is strengthened and remains democratic.

"The party should be a bridge between the people and the Government."

On banks, Mrs. Gandhi said it was more than unjust that in a country like India the peoples' saving should be exploited by a few people for their own purposes.

Asked whether peasants would be able to obtain credits easily, she said "our plans will be ready soon, and then disclosed to the public."

"Up to now we have helped certain industrialists to increase production, for we believed it was necessary in the national interest to increase production as quickly as possible.

"The result of this policy is that a few people have acquired enormous economic power, which again leads to big political and social tensions. This is dangerous.

"We want to achieve economic stability with increasing production, but not at the expense of political stability.

"Social justice suffered under the system up to now. The balance must be restored," Mrs. Gandhi said.

INDIAN EXPRESS

15/10/1969

Indira assailed

Form Page 1, Col. 4

the Congress presented the spectacle of factions, "shall we kiss and part and not quarrel and bicker to the accompaniment of the AIR orchestra?" His own suggestion was that the members of the Parliamentary Board should be locked up in a room till they reached an agreement.

Mr. Mishra said the Prime Minister had ignored the State Congress committees in many cases on her tours. Those who had carried out the Congress mandate during the election of the President had been ignored in a dozen delegations and important committees which had been constituted after the unity resolution.

He suggested that the leader of the party should appoint a committee to go into these complaints and review the personnel of these bodies and the manner in which "patronage is being distributed."

Pointing out another factor destroying the spirit of the resolution, Mr. Mishra said important leaders—even the Congress President and the honour of women members—had been attacked in the most intemperate language. The attention of the leader had been drawn to this unfortunate episode about a month ago but nothing had been heard about it so far.

The executive committee had not been able to discuss even important issues like the Rabat conference and the communal riots in the country though the demand had been made by some senior members, he said.

Mr. Mishra said the "call of conscience" had already cost the Congress a government in Manipur, a Council seat in Andhra and some seats in Jammu and Kashmir. Even the charge of engineering communal riots had been levelled against the Prime Minister's critics. If this was to divert attention from the national humiliation at Rabat, it was disingenuous.

Mr. Bishwanath Roy, a senior Congress Member of Parliament, today criticised the former party president, Mr. K. Kamaraj, for his reported remarks that the Central Government should not depend on support from Communists.

If the Communists supported the nationalisation of banks, where was the danger to the Congress, he asked.

Mr. Roy said the Congress Governments at the Centre and the States should undertake such measures as were needed for the uplift of the poor irrespective of support from Communists or Opposition from right-wing parties like the Congress and the Swatantra.

Option with Tripathi

Express News Service

NEW DELHI, Oct. 14.

Mr. Kamalapati Tripathi, president of the Uttar Pradesh Congress and Mr. H. N. Bahuguna, UPCC general secretary had a long meeting with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi here this evening. External Affairs Minister Dinesh Singh was present.

Mr. Tripathi later told newsmen that their talks were limited to the organisational matters of the Congress and the situation in UP. He had told the Prime Minister that an early meeting of the AICC would be advisable.

Mr. Bahuguna also had a 45-minute meeting with Congress President Nijalingappa.

The Congress President would not object if Mr. Kamalapati Tripathi chose to continue as PCC chief by relinquishing Deputy Chief Ministership of Uttar Pradesh, according to Mr. Bahuguna.

Mr. Bahuguna is understood to have protested strongly against the communication sent by an AICC general secretary, Mr. S. D. Sharma stating that the PCC presidentship was being declared vacant.

He pointed out that Mr. Tripathi's resignation as PCC president was still pending and he continued in this office and as Deputy Chief Minister under a resolution of the PCC. He wanted Mr. Tripathi to have the option of quitting any one of the two offices.

Mr. Nijalingappa is reported to have informed Mr. Bahuguna that there had been a mistake regarding the wording of Mr. Sharma's letter. His sole intention was to maintain the rule of one-man-one-office in the larger interests of the Congress organisation.

Mr. Bahuguna said a meeting of the PCC would be convened after the constitutional sub-committee had submitted its report to the State Congress executive.

INDIAN EXPRESS

15/10/1969.

Indira stifling unity pledge: S. N. Mishra

Express News Service

NEW DELHI. Oct. 14

The deputy leader of the Parliamentary Congress Party, Mr. S.N. Mishra, said here today that the effort initiated at Bangalore to destroy the independence of the organisation and make it completely subservient to the Governmental wing had continued unabated in spite of the unity resolution of the Congress Working Committee.

Coming out strongly in defence of the stand taken by Congress President S. Nijalingappa on the issues of Mr. C. Subramaniam and the presidents of the U.P. and Andhra Pradesh, Congress committees, Mr. Mishra said the discontinuance of Mr. Subramaniam's membership of the CWC was not by an act of termination but by the automatic operation of the relevant provisions of the party constitution.

Similarly, Mr. Mishra added, the rule regarding one man holding only one post was the only way to save the organisation from being a handmaid of the Government. He was referring to the cases of Mr. Kamlapati Tripathi and Mr. K. Venkataratnam who had "ceased to be" presidents of the State Congress committees by joining as Ministers.

Describing the letter by six CWC members to the Congress President as "ominous", Mr. Mishra said it was ironic that the architects of the unity resolution should have been making "untenable" charges thus showing scant respect to the resolution.

If the highest executive body of

Turn to Page 7, Col. 4

INDIAN EXPRESS

15/10/1969

Krishnappa asks SN to step down

By A Staff Reporter

BANGALORE, Oct. 14

Mr. M. V. Krishnappa, MP, and member of the AICC in a statement issued here today, ridiculed Congress President Nijalingappa's profession of maintenance of discipline in the organisation and remarked that there was no precedent in the party's history to certain acts of indiscipline committee by Mr. Nijalingappa himself.

He commented that Mr. Nijalingappa's insistence on discipline was contradictory to his own practice. During the 1967 general elections, he recalled, Mr. Nijalingappa was allotted the Bagalkot Assembly Constituency by the Parliamentary Board but he managed to get himself elected from Shiggaon, in Dharwar district, contesting from as many as 12 Assembly constituencies.

Mr. Nijalingappa retained the Chief Ministership of Mysore for a number of months, even after he was elected AICC President and relinquished it after mounting opposition from all parts of the country. "He is still retaining the membership of the Mysore Assembly, though he is the Congress President", he said.

Under these circumstances, how did it lie in Mr. Nijalingappa's mouth to ask the APCC and UPCC Presidents to resign from their positions Mr. Krishnappa asked.

"If discipline, according to him is a matter of convenience, it is better that he should give place to one who is known for the past moral record and stature to demand discipline from the rank and file of the organisation. I, as an ardent Congress worker for many years and as a Mysorean, request him to step down immediately to save the fair name of Mysore and give a free hand to the Prime Minister to pursue and implement the accepted policies and programmes of the Congress, instead of keeping the Prime Minister busy with trifles", he said.

Mr. Krishnappa has also observed that Mr. Nijalingappa's handling of Congress affairs has led to the creation of confusion and crisis both in the organisation and the country.

DECCAN HERALD

15/10/1969

Kamaraj to launch new "movement"

MADRAS, Oct. 14.—To set the country on the right track a movement may be started in Tamil Nadu, former Congress President Kamaraj said here yesterday.

Addressing a meeting in connection with the Gandhi centenary celebrations under the auspices of the Rajasthan Youth Association, Mr. Kamaraj said no one in the State need be afraid of raising his voice against the ruling group in Delhi.

He, however, did not elaborate on the nature of the "movement" and when it would be started.

Mr. Kamaraj said Tamil Nadu and Gujarat were the centres of Mahatma Gandhi's activities during the freedom struggle and therefore Tamil Nadu could rightly be entrusted with the task of puting the country on the right path. The country was not on "the right track" for the past 20 years, he added.

Apparently referring to Mrs. Gandhi and her supporters, Mr. Kamaraj said nobody should be afraid of pointing out to them that they were wrong.—UNI.

In an interview with PTI today Mr. Kamaraj said the time had come for launching an all-India movement for the moral uplift of the people.

Mr. Kamaraj explained that there had been a general fall in public standards such as frequent defections from political parties, corruption in public life and low moral standards.

REALISATION

During his recent tour in connection with the Gandhi centenary, Mr. Kamaraj added, he found there was a realisation on the part of the people that the moral degradation should be checked and the country should be taken on the lines indicated by the Father of the Nation. In view of the reawakening among the public, he felt a movement should be launched.

DECCAN HERALD

15/10/1969

Mystery about PM's brief visit

BANGALORE, Oct. 14.—While the Chief Minister, the Pradesh Congress President and Mr. M. V. Krishnappa, MP, who is busy arranging a befitting reception, are yet in the dark about the visit of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to the State this month, the Vimanapura Teachers' Association has intimation from the Prime Minister's Secretariat of her visit.

In reply to the association's request to the Prime Minister to address a meeting, the Private Secretary to the Prime Minister has expressed regret on the ground that during her stay in Bangalore "her programme will be brief and crowded." The letter from the PM's Secretariat is dated September 20.

DECCAN HERALD

15/10/1969

Tripathi can retain one post

NEW DELHI, Oct. 14.—Congress President Nijalingappa will not object if Mr. Kamlapati Tripathi chooses to continue as PCC Chief by relinquishing Deputy Chief Ministership of Uttar Pradesh.

Mr. Nijalingappa gave this assurance today to the UPCC General Secretary, Mr. N. M. Bahuguna.

He told Mr. Bahuguna that he had not declared the office of the UPCC Presidentship vacant.

Mr. Bahuguna was understood to have protested strongly against the communication sent by an AICC General Secretary S. D. Sharma stating that the PCC Presidentship was being declared vacant.

Mr. Bahuguna pointed out that Mr. Tripathi's resignation as PCC President was still pending and he continued in this office and as Deputy Chief Minister under a resolution of the PCC.

He wanted Mr. Tripathi to have the option of quitting any one of the two offices.

Mr. Nijalingappa told Mr. Bahuguna that there had been a mistake regarding the wording of Mr. Sharma's letter. His sole intention was to maintain the rule of one-man one-office in the larger interests of the Congress organisation.—UNI.

DECCAN HERALD

15/10/1969

PARTY STRONGER NOW: PM

BONN, Oct. 14.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said in an interview yesterday that since the Bangalore session the Congress Party had acquired greater public support and was strong enough to withstand internal dissension.

Mrs. Gandhi told the news magazine, Der Spiegel, that reforms, like the nationalisation of banks, had hitherto been delayed because of resistance inside the Congress Party.

"Everybody in the Government agreed in principle with the nationalisation of the banks, but action was not taken. In Bangalore, I was convinced that I had to act now, because otherwise the Congress Party would have finally fallen into the hands of a few people obsessed with power," Mrs. Gandhi said.

Asked whether in doing this she had risked her position as Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi said, "Certainly — not only that. I was given to understand: If you stick by us then we will keep you as Prime Minister, otherwise . . .

"I answered that it was not important whether I remained Prime Minister or not," she added.

Questioned about the possibility of assassination, Mrs. Gandhi said, "I do not know whether anybody is really after my life. Our security officials said they had information indicating this.

"I do not worry about this. For me the important thing is that the people know we are on their side, that the Congress Party is strengthened and remains democratic.

"The party should be a bridge between the people and the Government."

WEAKNESSES

Discussing the weaknesses of the Congress Party, Mrs. Gandhi said it did not encourage new people and was prone to form cliques — what she called "bossism".

Asked whether the party would disintegrate, Mrs. Gandhi said "Before the discussions in Bangalore, this danger was very great. But now — even if there were still a split — the Party as such would no longer be endangered".

On the nationalisation of the banks, Mrs. Gandhi said it was more than unjust that in a country like India the people's saving should be exploited by a few people for their own purposes.

Asked whether peasants would be able to obtain credits easily, she said "Our plans will be ready soon, and then disclosed to the public."

"Up to now we have helped certain industrialists to increase production, for we believed it was necessary in the national interest to increase production as quickly as possible.

"The result of this policy is that a few people have acquired enormous economic power, which again leads to big political and social tensions. This is dangerous.

"We want to achieve economic stability with increasing production, but not at the expense of political stability.

"Social justice suffered under the system up to now. The balance must be restored," Mrs. Gandhi said.—Reuter.

DECCAN HERALD

15/10/1969

Krishnappa's charge

BANGALORE, Oct. 14.—Mr. M. V. Krishnappa, M.P., today appealed to Congress President Nijalingappa "to step down immediately to save the fair name of Mysore" and to give a free hand to the Prime Minister to implement the party's accepted policies and programmes.

He regretted that the demand made by "many responsible members" for his resignation "to check further deterioration and disruption of the organisation has fallen on deaf ears" and that Mr. Nijalingappa was persisting to continue as President.

Mr. Krishnappa, in a statement, accused Mr. Nijalingappa of creating "problems for the Prime Minister and engaging her in trifles instead of allowing her to devote her full time to the problems facing the country."

He referred to instances of Mr. Nijalingappa issuing the party whip to get rebel Congressmen elected to the Legislative Council and then admitting them to the Congress, and continuing as the Chief Minister even after his election as Congress President, to charge the Congress President with violation of party discipline, and asserted that it did not "lie in the mouth" of Mr. Nijalingappa to ask the Presidents of the A.P.C.C. and the U.P.C.C. to resign either from Ministership or the P.C.C. Presidentship.

TIMES OF INDIA

15/10/1969

Nijalingappa's action is defended by S. N. Mishra

"The Times of India" News Service

NEW DELHI, October 14.

THE deputy leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party and convener of the Congress Socialist Forum, Mr. S. N. Mishra, today took up cudgels against those who have been attacking the Congress President in the cold war between the governmental and organisational wings of the party.

In a statement issued on behalf of the Socialist Forum, Mr. Mishra has questioned the basis on which the Prime Minister and five other members of the Working Committee charged Mr. Nijalingappa with action which was alleged to go against the letter and spirit of the unity resolution adopted on August 25.

Mr. Mishra maintained that the Congress President was only trying to act in accordance with the rules and provisions of the party constitution. In fact, if he failed to do so, it would amount to a dereliction of duty. In the case of Mr. C. Subramaniam, he automatically ceased to be a member of the Working Committee once he lost his membership of the AICC by reason of his resignation from the presidentship of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee. It was only in the case of nominated members of the Working Committee that an opportunity was given to get elected to the AICC within six months if he was already not an AICC member. As for Mr. Kamlapati Tripathi, did he not resign from the presidentship of the UPCC when he was appointed Deputy Chief Minister because he was aware of the rules of the party?

Mr. Mishra considered the letter to the Congress President "by a group of members of the Working Committee headed by the Prime Minister" "ominous" from the point of view of unity in the Congress. This had been followed by a "refrain" from some Congressmen in various parts of the country "according to a set pattern." Even the charge of engineering communal riots had been levelled against the Prime Minister's critics. If this was "designed to divert the people's attention from the national humiliation at Rabat, it is ridiculously disingenuous."

CENSURE MOTION THREATS

"There have been threats of a censure motion against the Congress President for some time past and if they have been repeated in the wake of this letter more seriously than before, on wonders who is going to suffer more in the bargain—the organisational wing or the Government? At any rate, it is the Congress as a whole that is bound to get further weakened as a result of the stepping up of the cold war. It has also to be noted that while we had not recovered from the "pangs of conscience" in the presidential and vice-presidential elections, we see their recrudescence in the States. The call of conscience has already cost us a government in Manipur, a Council seat in Andhra, and a number of Council seats in Jammu and Kashmir."

"If the general picture of the party is such and even the highest executive body of the Congress thus presents an unedifying spectacle of factions, one does not know how we hope to resume the momentum we had lost in the last crisis. Would things get worse before they become better?

"Or, if some believe that we have reached the fork in the road, shall we kiss and part and not quarrel and bicker to the accompaniment of the AIR orchestra?"

One of the important lessons of the letter and spirit by many Congress leaders. The instances mentioned in the letter do not warrant the serious charge that the organisational wing was going against the spirit of the unity resolution. In fact, these instances only go to prove that the organisational wing was trying to do what the Constitution and rules demand of it and would, indeed, have been hauled up for dereliction of duty if it failed to do so."

The Prime Minister had complained that her supporters were being pushed out. "We do not know if this is true. If it were done in a vindictive manner, we will go all out to combat this tendency. However, we know that during the course of her tours she has, in some cases, ignored the PCCs and in many cases not thought it fit to speak in the name of the Congress. Nearer home, we would like to draw her attention to the complaints of partisanship and factionalism in dispensing favours and patronage that are in the gift of the Congress as the ruling party at the Centre. It has been reported to us that in about a dozen of the delegations and important committees that have been constituted after the passing of the unity resolution hardly any one of those who carried out the Congress mandate in the Presidential election finds a place. In fact, it has come to be known that the name of a member who was included in a delegation was scored out when he had already made preparations for joining it. Surely, it cannot be contended that all merits and talents are concentrated on the freedom-of-vote group and a large majority who stood firmly by the tradition of loyalty and discipline were completely devoid of them.

"Some observers have pointed out that the more fanatical and pugnacious the elements the greater the rewards they receive. Such elements have vested interests in cleavage and disunity. So, active aid and abetment to them only helps the growth of the forces of disunity and disruption and brings about the complete negation of the unity resolution. We are afraid that dissatisfaction on this account is mounting and may well prove to be injurious to the party's interests. The leader of the party may appoint a committee to go into these complaints and review the personnel of these bodies and the manner in which patronage is being distrubuted."

WILD CHARGES

Equally destructive of the unity resolution was the way in which wild charges had been made by the members of the party against fellow members on the floor of Parliament even after August 25, when the unity resolution was passed. "Important Congress leaders—even the Congress President and the honour of lady members have not been spared—have been attacked in the most intemperate and vituperative language. The attention of the leader was drawn by some members of the party to this unfortunate episode about a month ago, but nothing has been heard about it so far, and we are being assailed by inquiries about it."

Congressmen had, therefore, seriously to ponder whether an atmosphere of unity and co-operation which the party needed so badly after the recent crisis could be generated in such circumstances.

Things could, perhaps, be sorted out if an important organ like the executive committee of the party found conditions to function as effectively as before. The executive committee had not been able to discuss even important issues like the Rabat conference and the communal riots, though the demand

last crisis unmistakably conveyed by the unity resolution was that charges should not be made lightly against the head of the organisation at least by highly placed Congressmen. So, it was really ironic that the architects of this resolution themselves had again been found making "untenable" charges and thus showing scant respect to the resolution.

In Mr. Mishra's view, the six members of the Working Committee, therefore, might not carry much conviction when "they lament that the unity resolution was not being observed in [illegible] had been made by some senior members.

"The present attack on the organisation under the specious plea of unity is again for adherence to the constitution and rules. The agitation started by the letter seems to be pivoted on the issue of Mr. Subramaniam's membership of the Working Committee. It must be realised that the discontinuance of Mr. Subramaniam's membership is not by an act of termination of the Congress President but by the automatic operation of the relevant provisions of the constitution.

LIKE A COMPUTER

"Since he has ceased to be a member of the AICC, the plain constitutional position is that he automatically ceases to be a member of the Working Committee and the Congress President, like a computer, has only to register it. Mr. Subramaniam belongs to the elected quota of the Working Committee and so even the constitutional provision permitting a regularisation during the next six months cannot be availing in his case. In the case of a nominated member of the Working Committee too, if he ceases to be a member of the AICC, the more proper course for the Congress President would be to reappoint him on condition that he shall get re-elected as a member of the AICC. A Minister, when unseated, generally goes out of office.

"To argue that once a member of the AICC is elected to the Working Committee he can continue to be there even when he has lost his membership of the AICC is to suggest that a member of Parliament could continue to be a member of a parliamentary committee or even of a party executive after he had ceased to be a member of Parliament."

Mr. Mishra concluded: "It is by now all too apparent that the effort initiated at the Bangalore session to destroy the independence of the organisation and make it completely subservient to the governmental wing continues unabated in spite of the unity resolution. If the constitution has to be twisted and distorted to suit the interests of some individuals and groups, it would prove to be the undoing of the Congress. We will have to uphold the sanctity of the constitution, for in the absence of it the Congress will cease to be the spearhead of the struggle for democratic socialism and become a vehicle of the caprices of those in power."

TIMES OF INDIA

15/10/1969

Congress image has improved since Bangalore session, says PM

BONN, October 14.

MRS. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, said in an interview yesterday that since its Bangalore session, the ruling Congress Party had acquired greater public support and was strong enough to withstand internal dissension.

Mrs. Gandhi told the news magazine, "Der Spiegel," that reforms, like the nationalisation of banks, had hitherto been delayed because of resistance inside the Congress Party.

"Everybody in the Government agreed in principle with the nationalisation of the banks, but action was not taken. In Bangalore, I was convinced that I had to act, because otherwise the party would have finally fallen into the hands of a few people obsessed with power," Mrs. Gandhi said.

POSITION RISKED

Asked wheher in doing this she had risked her position as Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi said, "Certainly — not only that. I was given to understand: if you stick by us then we will keep you as Prime Minister, otherwise...

"I answered that it was not important whether I remained Prime Minister or not," she added.

Questioned about the possibility of assassination, Mrs. Gandhi said, "I do not know whether anybody is really after my life. Our security officials said they had information indicating this.

"I do not worry about this. For me the important thing is that the people know we are on their side, that the Congress Party is strengthened and remains democratic.

PARTY IN NO DANGER

"The party should be a bridge between the people and the Government."

Discussing the weaknesses of the Congress Party, Mrs. Gandhi said it did not encourage new people and was prone to form cliques — what she called "bossism."

Asked whether the party would disintegrate, Mrs. Gandhi said, "Before the discussions in Bangalore, this danger was very great. But now — even if there were still a split — the party as such would no longer be endangered."

On the nationalisation of banks, Mrs. Gandhi said it was more than unjust that in a country like India the peoples' savings should be exploited by a few people for their own purposes.

Asked whether peasants would be able to obtain credits easily, she said, "Our plans will be ready soon, and then disclosed to the public.

"Up to now we have helped certain industrialists to increase production, for we believed it was necessary in the national interest to increase production as quickly as possible.

"The result of this policy is that a few people have acquired enormous economic power, which again leads to big political and social tensions. This is dangerous.

"We want to achieve economic stability with increasing production, but not at the expense of political stability.

"Social justice suffered under the system upto now. The balance must be restored," Mrs. Gandhi said.—Reuter.

times of india

15/10/1969

KAMARAJ TO START NEW MOVEMENT

MADRAS, October 14: Mr. K, Kamaraj, member of Parliament and former Congress President, said that the country had been going on a "wrong track all these 20 years" and a "movement would be started in the south to put the country on the right track."

He did not, however, clarify as to what the nature of the movement would be and when it would be started.

He was addressing a meeting organised by the Rajasthani Youth Association here last night to celebrate Gandhi centenary.

Mr. Kamaraj said that they in Tamil Nadu had nothing to fear in raising their voice against what he called the "ruling group at the Centre." Even Mahatma Gandhi had stated that he had always trusted Gujarat and Tamil Nadu as the backbone of movements started for securing freedom for the country. Andhra was also at the forefront of all big national movements.

He said that actually the south could be reliably depended upon to spearhead a movement to put the country back on the right track.

Criticising the "ruling group at the Centre," Mr. Kamaraj said that those in authority should not hesitate to change the direction in which they were going, if it was the wrong direction. "There was no use being stubborn and arrogant," he said.

Mr. Kamaraj said the press was in "fear" of the Government, and this posed a "danger" to democracy. What would happen to democracy if the press was afraid to print the truth, and if the people were afraid to speak what they felt, he asked. Even in voting, they would not vote according to their conviction, but only out of fear, he said.

Party leaders had "corrupted the people by buying their votes for one or two rupees each," Mr. Kamaraj said and those elected were being "bought for Rs. 10,000/-," and if this went on, "where will democracy be," he asked.

TIMES OF INDIA

15/10/1969

Subramaniam cannot stay in CWC: Morarji

"The Times of India" News Service

AHMEDABAD, October 14: The former Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, supported here today the contention that Mr. C. Subramaniam could not remain a member of the Congress Working Committee after having resigned from the presidentship of the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee.

Mr. Desai said, according to the party's constitution, Mr. Subramaniam ceased to be a member of the AICC when he resigned from the TNCC post. Since Mr. Subramaniam was elected to the CWC as an AICC member, he could not continue in the CWC.

Party chief must quit, says Krishnappa

"The Times of India" News Service

BANGALORE, October 14: Mr. M. V. Krishnappa, Congress M.P., today asked the Congress President, Mr. S. Nijalingappa, to resign and give a free hand to the Prime Minister to pursue and implement the policies of the party.

Mr. Krishnappa, one of the "conscience voters" in the Presidential election, said Mr. Nijalingappa had created confusion within the organisation and the country.

HINDUSTAN TIMES

15/10/1969

Kamaraj talks of southern movement

Madras, Oct. 14 (PTI)—Former Congress President K. Kamaraj said the country was on a "wrong track all these 20 years" and a "movement would be started in the South to put the country on the right track."

He did not, however, clarify as to what the nature of the movement would be and when it would start.

He was addressing a meeting organised by the Rajasthani Youth Association here last night to celebrate Gandhi Centenary.

Mr Kamaraj said the South had nothing to fear in raising their voice against what he called the "ruling group at the Centre." Even Mahatma Gandhi had stated he had always trusted Gujarat and Tamil Nadu as the backbone of movements started for securing freedom for the country. Andhra was also at the forefront of all big national movements.

He said actually the South could be reliably depended upon to spearhead a movement to put the country back on the right track.

Criticising the "ruling group at the Centre," he said those in authority should not hesitate to change the direction in which they were going, if it was the wrong direction. "There was no use being stubborn and arrogant," he added.

Mr Kamaraj said the Press was in "fear" of the Government, and this posed a "danger" to democracy.

hindustan times

15/10/1969

U.P. Congress leaders meet PM, others

Continued from page 1 col. 1

Deputy Chief Minister or withdraw his resignation from PCC presidentship. The situation was changing fast and his decision would depend on the circumstances prevailing at the time of the PCC meeting.

Syndicates weakness

But he seemed inclined to retain PCC presidentship in case he could not continue in his present capacity. But if there was re-election of PCC president, the legislators would demand re-election of the leader of the legislature party as well.

Their attitude has exposed one of the weaknesses of the Syndicate. In case the Syndicate forces a showdown with the Prime Minister, Mr Gupta's Ministry may become an immediate casualty.

During his discussion with Mr Nijalingappa, Mr Bahuguna is reported to have protested against the wording of the letter sent by the AICC, which said the PCC president's post had "fallen vacant." He argued that no vacancy existed as long as the PCC did not accept Mr Tripathi's resignation who continued to be the president. He maintained that Mr Tripathi could still exercise his option and withdraw his resignation if he so desired. He could not be removed from PCC presidentship by the AICC.

Speaking to newsmen, Mr Tripathi said, "If I have no option, nobody can force me to remain in Government."

Mr Bahuguna questioned the propriety of the AICC addressing a letter to the PCC president stating that his office had fallen vacant. It is understood that Mr Nijalingappa regretted the wording of the letter and said all that the AICC meant was to remind the PCC to discuss the issue of electing a new president. If the PCC turned down Mr Tripathi's resignation, he would remain president. He still had the option.

He also justified the letter to Mr Nijalingappa sent by the Prime Minister and five other members of the Working Committee protesting against the action contemplated against Mr C. Subramaniam. Any member of the Working Committee had the right to "interfere in such matters. They sensed that some action was being taken against Mr Subramaniam and were unhappy that a colleague was being treated badly. They had the authority to interfere."

Mr Bahuguna maintained the Working Committee was the final authority to interpret the party constitution and therefore the Subramaniam issue should be decided by it. The Congress President had no right to do so. He argued that Working Committee members were responsible to the AICC and not to the Congress President in terms of the party constitution.